

Serial No.: 09/812,059
Atty. Docket No.: 01-035-US

REMARKS REGARDING THE AMENDMENTS

Claims 6-9, 11, 12, 14-16, and 26-30 are pending.

Claims 1-5, 10, 13 and 17-25 were previously cancelled without prejudice for presentation in this or a later submitted application.

Claims 6 and 7 are currently amended. Claim 6 is amended to correct a typographical error. Claim 7 is amended to add: "wherein the outlet manifold extends through the upper face of the cartridge plate."

REMARKS REGARDING OFFICE ACTION

Initially, Applicants would like to extend their appreciation to Examiner Hopkins for the time and attention accorded this application. Applicants would also like to thank Examiner Hopkins for the withdrawal of the Restriction/Election Requirement of June 15, 2005.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants further would like to thank Examiner Hopkins for the telephonic interview conducted with the undersigned on September 21, 2005. An amendment to claim 7 was discussed during this interview. Applicants' representative suggested the amendment of claim 7 to include "wherein the outlet manifold extends through the upper face of the cartridge plate" to more clearly define applicants' invention from Edens (US 4,402,828) which shows an outlet manifold which is below the upper face of the cartridge plate. Applicants' representative further pointed to the reasons for allowance in the outstanding Office Action indicating that a similar recitation in applicants' claims was allowable over the prior art. Examiner Hopkins agreed that this amendment to claim 7 would define over the Edens patent.

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CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 AND ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as clearly anticipated by Edens (US 4,402,828).

Independent claim 7 has been amended above to highlight and clarify the distinctions between claim 7 and the cited reference. As discussed in the interview, claim 7 has been amended to include "wherein the outlet manifold extends through the upper face of the cartridge plate." As stated by Examiner Hopkins, on page 5, lines 13-16 of the outstanding Office Action, Edens and Pctt (US 4,331,535) teach an outlet manifold which is below the cartridge plate. The prior art, therefore, does not teach an outlet manifold which extends through the upper face of the cartridge plate as now recited in claim 7. Applicants submit therefore that claim 7, as amended herein, should be allowed because there is no teaching in the cited prior art for an outlet manifold which extends through the upper face of a cartridge plate. Withdrawal of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants extend their appreciation to Examiner Hopkins for the indication for the allowability of claims 6, 9, 11, 12, 14-16 and 26-30; and claim 8 if rewritten in independent form. Applicants respectfully submit claim 8 is in allowable form because of its dependence from amended claim 7 which has been shown to be allowable above.

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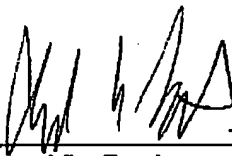
CONCLUSION

All of the Examiner's concerns have been addressed by the above amendments and clarifying remarks. Because the above independent claims are clearly not anticipated or obvious in light of the cited references, all outstanding claims are in condition for allowance, and prompt notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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